



Watering Guide For New Lawn and Landscapes

A. Basic Watering Guide for Your New Lawn and Landscape

Thank you for choosing LST Landscaping Inc. to provide your new planting(s). Please reference the following watering instructions for the optimal results. If you have an irrigation system it will provide all the water you need for your new lawn, however, DO NOT depend on it to "water in" your new shrubs or trees. A sprinkler system cannot provide enough water penetration initially for larger shrubs and trees. Only after your planting has been established will your sprinkler system provide sufficient water for them. The following instructions are a general basic guideline and actual watering times should be adjusted depending on what time of year it is and/or rainfall amounts. Treat your sprinkler clock as if it were a thermostat in your home.

B. When is the Best Time to Water

Under ideal conditions your lawn should be dry at night and during the hottest part of the day. When this is not possible, apply one of the following options:

1. Water in early evening. This allows the moisture to soak into the ground and be taken up by the roots overnight. The sun cannot evaporate the water and if you complete the cycles early enough you will not spread fungus spores via splashing droplets.
2. Set your timer to be finished with its watering cycle as you get up in the morning. This takes advantage of higher water pressures at night.
3. Set your timer to best utilize its watering capabilities during restrictions. Remember - most people over water.

C. How Do I Water My New Lawn

- Seed lawn.
- Sod lawn.
- Ornamental shrubs, perennials and trees.

D. Watering by hand for your new Seeded Lawn:

- Water 2-3 times daily until the grass reaches 1".
- No run off or puddling should occur as this will cause seed to wash away.
- The soil should stay darkened at all times.
- After the grass reaches 1-2" in height, water only once per day but double the watering time per area. Water everyday 7 times per week until seasonal weather differences require an increase or decrease in watering practices.

It is important that while the seed is becoming established, the ground should remain dark in color to indicate it is moist but not wet to the point that puddles accumulate. Think of your seed lawn as an infant that requires small but frequent feedings. Once your seed lawn has matured and is 1-2" in height you will want to irrigate less frequently but more deeply.

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Actual watering times and frequencies should be adjusted depending on seasonal temperatures or rainfall amounts. Treat your sprinkler clock as if it were a thermostat in your home, increasing the time settings to water longer if you feel your lawn is too dry.

Once your new lawn is established LST recommends that proper turf management involves watering your lawn with 1" of water per week. This water can be in the form of rainfall and/or automatic sprinklers. The kind of sprinkler heads and nozzles used in your system will determine how long you will need to water to apply that amount.

E. Watering by hand for your new SOD lawn:

- Water 2 times per day for about 20 minutes.
- Water every day for the 2nd week.
- Water every other day for the 3rd week.
- From the 4th week on, water 4 times per week until seasonal weather changes require a change in watering practices.

To test if you are applying enough water to your new sod lawn, pull back a piece of sod that is not yet rooted and check the soil underneath. It should be damp and cool. If the soil is dry or very wet, you should adjust your watering method. Perform this test in different locations of your yard. Once you have done this test a few times and your sod is rooted, you will have a feel for its regular watering needs per area.

Actual watering times and frequencies should be adjusted depending on seasonal temperatures or rainfall amounts. Treat your sprinkler clock as if it were a thermostat in your home; if your lawn seems too dry, increase the time settings to water longer.

Once your new lawn is established LST recommends that proper turf management involves watering your lawn with 1" of water per week. This water can be in the form of rainfall and/or automatic sprinklers. The kind of sprinkler heads and nozzles used in your system will determine how long you will need to water to apply that amount.

F. How To Water your new SHRUBS, PERENNIALS & TREES:

- Water every day for the first 2 weeks.
- In the third and fourth week, water every other day.
- Water twice a week after that through September.
- Water once a week thereafter for the first year, rainfall is sufficient.

A good method to determine if your ornamental plants are receiving enough water is to slip your fingers in along the plant root ball and feel if it is damp and cool to a depth of 3" to 6". If the soil is dry, or if it is saturated, you should fine-tune your watering periods. Actual watering times and frequencies should be adjusted depending on seasonal temperatures or rainfall amounts. In the second and subsequent years, your irrigation system should provide adequate watering.

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